

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 12479 180908Z

21

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 EUR-12 NEA-10 AGR-05

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1677

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 12479

NEW DELHI FOR TEXTILE DELEGATION

GENEVA FOR SPRUCE

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD JA

SUBJ: TRALATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON MFA RENEWAL

REF: NEW DELHI 12091

1. ECONUNS CALLED AT FOREIGN MINISTRY ON MORNING OF AUGUST 18 TO URGE JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTRY PARTICIPATION AT AN APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVEL IN MFA TRILATERAL CONSULTATIONS. AFTER POINTING OUT THAT MIZOGUCHI HAD LED JAPANESE DELEGATION IN TWO PREVIOUS MEETINGS, WE EMPHASIZED THAT MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS REQUIRED PRESENCE OF KNOWLEDGEABLE REPRESENTATIVES WHO HAVE FULL AUTHORITY TO SPEAK.

2. MATSUDA IMMEDIATELY SAID THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS NOT DECIDED ON WHO WILL ATTEND CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON. HE SAID THAT MIZOGUCHI IS ALREADY COMMITTED TO ATTENDING OTHER MEETINGS AND THAT HE HAD TO REMAIN IN TOKYO TO COMPLETE PREPARATION OF JAPANESE PRESENTATION OF ITS TARIFF FORMULA PROPOSALS AT THE MTNS IN GENEVA. HE HE VOLUNTEERED THAT, IN SPITE OF THIS, THE JAPANESE FULLY RECOGNIZED
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 12479 180908Z

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MFA TRILATERALS AND DID NOT WISH TO SHOW ANY

LACK OF INTEREST. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD CONSIDER MATTER SERIOUSLY AND INFORM US IN A FEW DAYS OF HIS PLANS.

3. ECOUNS THEREAFTER CALLED BRIEFLY ON TAKAHASHI AT MITI TO INFORM HIM THAT WE HAD RAISED THIS QUESTION AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. TAKAHASHI SAID HE WOULD DO WHAT HE COULD TO ENCOURAGE APPROPRIATE FOREIGN MINISTRY REPRESENTATION, ADDING THAT HE AND HONOBÉ WOULD BE PRESENT AND THAT MITI WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MEETING.

4. TAKAHASHI THEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT MATSUDA IS NEW IN HIS POSITION AND TENDS TO BE MORE CONCERNED WITH THE POLITICAL THAN THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF GLOBAL TEXTILE ISSUES. HE SAID THAT MASUDA'S OUTLOOK EXPLAINED WHY HE HAD STATED DURING THE BILATERAL TALKS IN TOKYO THAT RENEWAL OF THE MFA IS LINKED TO THE U.S. POSITION ON TARIFF REDUCTIONS ON TEXTILES IN THE MTS. TAKAHASHI SAID THAT MATSUDA INTENDED IN THIS WAY TO ASK THE U.S. DELEGATION WHAT IT WOULD DO WHEN FACED WITH DEMANDS FROM THE LDCS FOR TEXTILE TARIFF REDUCTIONS IN RETURN FOR LDC SUPPORT FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE MFA. WE RESPONDED THAT WE COULD NOT COMMENT ON THE QUESTION EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT IT IS SIGNIFICANT AND SHOULD BE DISCUSSED AT THE TRILATERAL TALKS IN WASHINGTON.

SHOESMITH

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